

AV/C COMMANDS FOR ACCESSING
A HARD DISK DEVICE

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

5 A method and system thereof for organizing and accessing stored data in
a mass storage unit such as a hard disk device. An object is associated with the
stored data, and a unique object identifier is derived for and assigned to the
object by the hard disk device. The object is addressed by its object identifier.
The object is maintained in a hierarchical organization with other objects. The
10 hierarchical organization includes an object list that contains the object
identifier and also includes object identifiers for the other objects. Commands
are defined for accessing and operating on the stored data using the object
identifier for the object associated with the data. Thus, objects are named and
organized on a hard disk device in an audio/visual network in a uniform
15 manner, and the objects are represented to devices in the AV network so that
they can be readily accessed and retrieved by those devices. In one
embodiment, the unique object identifier includes a first portion representing a
unique vendor number for the particular hard disk device and a second portion
representing a unique assignment such as the date and time that the object was
20 created.